

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. The Examiner acknowledges Applicant's submission on 6/7/11, in view of the decision from the pre-appeal conference, prosecution has been re-opened. Claims 1-20 are allowed.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-20 are allowed.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: With respect to independent claims 1, 14, 15 and 17-19, Helfman discloses a message notification means which stores status information associated with a message. The status information of Helfman discloses messages that are new and for which a notification has not been cleared. Prior art combinations do not disclose that the messages are new but has an associated notification that has been cleared. Furthermore, the claims disclose that a user interface is provided to a user of the list of notification associated with only those messages determined to be new and for which a notification has not been cleared. The combination of these above features along with the features disclosed in the independent claims make the claims allowable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Since claims 2-13, 16 and 20 depend on claims 1 and 15 and include all of the limitations of these claims, claims 2-13, 16 and 20 are considered allowable for the reasons in which claims 1 and 15 is allowable.

Conclusion

4. Responses to this action should be submitted as per the options cited below: The United States Patent and Trademark Office requires most patent related correspondence to be: a) faxed to the Central Fax number (571-273-8300) b) hand carried or delivered to the Customer Service Window (located at the Randolph Building, 401 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA 22314), c) mailed to the mailing address set forth in 37 CFR 1.1 (e.g., P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450), or d) transmitted to the Office using the Office's Electronic Filing System.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications for the examiner should be directed to Namitha Pillai whose telephone number is (571) 272-4054. The examiner can normally be reached from 10:00 AM – 6:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Boris Pesin can be reached on (571) 272-4070.

All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO employees do not engage in Internet communications where there exists a possibility that sensitive information could be identified or exchanged unless the record includes a properly signed express waiver of the confidentiality requirements of 35 U.S.C. 122. This is more clearly set forth in the Interim Internet Usage Policy published

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in the Official Gazette of the Patent and Trademark on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG 89.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2100.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Namitha Pillai
Primary Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2172
August 22, 2011

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